

he founded Joe's Tailor Shop at age 50. For more than 25 years, Joe's small family business created employment and provided for more than 20 families.

In 1953, Joe met Katharina Schaeffer, who was also an immigrant from Kernei. They had three children, Hermann (Christine), Robert and Monica (John) as well as three grandchildren, Michael, Lauren and Megan. The family was blessed to be able to celebrate Joe and Katharina's 60th wedding anniversary in February of this year.

For the past ten years Joe had been the President of the Kernei Pleasure Club in Chicago. As a leader in Chicago's German-American community, he balanced the preservation of old world traditions with a love and belief in the American way of life. The recent World Cup soccer match between the U.S. and Germany could have created a conflict but Joe clearly supported Team USA.

I'm not sure he had a bucket list but I do know he had watched a family grow and flourish, experienced all the richness life can offer, and was able to look back with very few regrets. I also know the investment he made in his family and friends paid dividends throughout his whole life. Although he will be sadly missed, his love for his country and family will live on forever.

CONGRATULATING THE LIONS CLUB OF RICHMOND, INDIANA

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2014

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Lions Club of Richmond Indiana on its 90th Anniversary.

Lions Clubs International is the world's largest service club organization. These clubs provide invaluable services to people in communities across the county and around the globe. Lions Clubs help to fight blindness, protect the environment, feed the hungry, and assist seniors and people with disabilities. The Richmond Lions Club has been an asset to people in east-central Indiana, serving this community for nearly a century.

This outstanding achievement would not have been possible without the dedication, commitment and vision exhibited by today's club members and those over the past 90 years. These community leaders who diligently serve for the good of the public set an example for all Hoosiers to follow.

I ask the entire 6th Congressional District to join me in congratulating the Lions Club of Richmond, Indiana on its 90th Anniversary and thanking them for their continued service. I have no doubt that the extraordinary individuals who make up this great institution will be serving the people of Richmond for many more years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE PAXTON LADY CATS AS CLASS 1A BASKETBALL STATE CHAMPIONS AND HONORING THE LIFE AND DEDICATED SERVICE OF COACH RANDY INFINGER

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2014

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the First Congressional District of Florida's Paxton School girls basketball team for winning the Class 1A Basketball State Championship and honor the life of Coach Randy Infinger.

The Paxton Lady Cats ended a spectacular season with a record of 26-3 to clinch this year's state championship. The final game was played against Chipley High School on February 20, 2014, in Lakeland, Florida, with the Lady Cats claiming victory with a score of 39-34. Many of the exceptional plays leading up to the victory occurred in the final quarter of this tightly contested championship game. Senior Emily Murray scored a game-high 20 points on the strength of four 3-pointers, including a game-winning three pointer with just 38 seconds left on the clock. With their victory, the Lady Cats secured Paxton's fifth girls basketball state championship, moving them into fifth place on the all-time Florida girls basketball championship list. Their latest state championship marks another proud moment in the sports history of Northwest Florida high school basketball.

Sadly, on February 23, 2014, four days after their extraordinary victory, the Paxton Lady Cats and the entire Paxton community were struck by tragedy when long-time Paxton Assistant Coach Randy Infinger passed away. Throughout his dedicated 25-year career at Paxton School, Mr. Infinger coached several teams and touched the hearts of countless students and teachers. His contributions to Northwest Florida and Paxton School were truly exceptional, and his legacy will not be forgotten.

On behalf of the United States Congress and the citizens of Northwest Florida, I would like to honor and remember Coach Randy Infinger and congratulate players Katie Sebastian (#3), Quinn Williams (#4), Cortni McKee (#5), Faith Elmore (#11), Emily Murray (#12), Sidney Beck (#14), Genesis Long (#15), Lenora Dixon (#21), Allison Carnley (#22), Annie Myles (#23), Bethany Neale (#24), Cassidy Brazile (#25), Payton Malloy (#30), and Kristen Corbett (#45); Head Coach, Steve Williams; Assistant Coach, Kim Corbett; Bookkeeper, Laurie Gilbert; Statistician, Connor Williams; Principal Beth Tucker; Assistant Principal Mitch Jackson; and Athletic Director Steve Williams for their extraordinary victory. My wife Vicki joins me in offering our best wishes to Paxton School and its talented athletes and coaches for their continued academic and athletic success, as well as our prayers and most sincere condolences to the family of Mr. Infinger and the entire Paxton community for their tremendous loss.

REMEMBERING DAVID STEPHEN CONRAD

HON. BRADLEY BYRNE

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2014

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember a great Alabamian and a proud Mobilian, Mr. David Stephen Conrad, or just "D" as he was known to his family.

Mr. Conrad was born in Boston, Massachusetts on August 30, 1939, but he called Mobile home for the last 49 years. He graduated from the University of Alabama and Cumberland School of Law in Birmingham, Alabama. He passed away on September 3, 2014.

Mr. Speaker, David loved the law and took great pleasure in his profession. He co-founded the firm of Conrad & Hammond, which is known today as Conrad, Barlar, and McCulloch. He was well-known throughout the legal community as a lawyer possessing the difficult balance of class, respect, and courtesy, while always being the strongest advocate possible for his clients. He was always willing to assist and mentor his fellow lawyers, providing counsel on personal and professional matters wherever requested.

He was an active member of his personal and professional communities. He served as past Vice President and board member for the Alzheimer's Association, past member of the Board of Directors of the Springhill Avenue Temple, past member of the Board of Directors of the Mobile Jewish Welfare Association, past Secretary and Vice President of the Mobile Bar Association, past member of the Board of Directors of the Alabama Trial Lawyers Association, member of the Alabama and Mobile Bar Associations, past Regional Board Member for the Southern District of the Commercial Law League of America, past member of the Board of Directors of the Mobile Medical Endowment Fund, past member of the Board of Directors of the Gulf Coast Conservation Association, past member of Ducks Unlimited, and past officer of the Board of Directors for Mobile Big Game Fishing Association.

David Conrad always tried to see and find the best in every human. He approached every obstacle he faced with an unwavering positive attitude, the quintessential "eternal optimist." He loved his wife, children, and grandchildren deeply. He always enjoyed spending time with his family at their family house known as "Camp David."

David is survived by his wife, Norma, his son, Jeff (Chris) Conrad of Mobile, his daughters, Wendy (Neal) Aronson of Atlanta, Georgia, and Jill (Christopher) Hufnagel of Grand Rapids, Michigan. He is also survived by his 7 grandchildren: Matthew, Will, and Ellie Aronson; Stephen and Sydney Conrad; and Owen and Henry Hufnagel.

Mr. Speaker, I want to add my name to the chorus of individuals who were personally touched by David Conrad. I pray that his family and friends will find peace during this difficult time, but that they will find comfort in remembering the good times and great memories they shared with David.

IN HONOR OF N. MICHAEL RUCKA

LOUDON COUNTY COMMISSIONER
ROY H. BLEDSOE**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2014

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor N. Michael Rucka, an important community leader whose entrepreneurial spirit, tenacity, and ethical standards enriched the lives of his family, law partners, friends, and clients. Mike was a dear friend and wonderful mentor. He was the very essence of life, compassion, generosity, and curiosity. World affairs and domestic politics were always on Mike's mind and he was never shy about sharing his thoughts with me. Mike passed away on July 28, 2014, after struggling with cancer. His passing has left a huge empty space in those of us who knew and loved him. But what we will remember the most is the way he enriched so many lives and made the Monterey Bay Area, and indeed the world, a better place.

Mike was born on October 3, 1939 in Brooklyn, New York. His parents, Nettie and Arthur, soon moved to Los Angeles and then settled in San Francisco. Mike graduated from Lowell High School before attending the University of California, Berkeley. Following his graduation from UC Berkeley and the University of San Francisco School of Law, Michael relocated to the Monterey Peninsula in the 1970s. There, he worked ambitiously alongside his friends Emmet O'Boyle, Alfred Lombardo, and J. Andrew McKenna to develop the Rucka, O'Boyle, Lombardo, and McKenna Law Firm in Salinas, California.

Mike devoted every day to representing injured parties in matters of workers compensation and Social Security disability. Mike won the Granado Case before the California Supreme Court, thus establishing the rule that temporary disability and medical treatment are not subject to apportionment. Thanks to his work, this rule has benefited all injured workers since.

Michael co-founded and acted as one-time National Chair of the Workplace Injury Law & Advocacy Group. He also served as the President of the California Applicant's Attorneys Association from 1975 to 1976. In 1993, Mike received the Eugene Marias Lifetime Achievement Award.

Mike was uniquely respected both in this community, throughout California, and by his peers throughout the country. In a small block of marble in his office is a short handled hoe, presented to Michael in honor of his instrumental work and help in getting the back-breaking short handled hoe banned from the agricultural fields of California. He donated his time, resources and energy to organizations that are committed to advancing the rights of injured workers and others who need a voice.

Mr. Speaker, I know I speak for the whole House in honoring Mike's lifetime of achievement and in extending our heartfelt condolences to his friends, and family members, including his wife Corry, daughter Brandy, sons Greg and Nick, and his grandchildren.

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2014

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, Loudon County Commissioner Roy H. Bledsoe is a long-time friend of my family, and one of the most honorable men I have ever known.

He recently retired from 55 years of public service to Tennessee. During that time, he impacted the lives of thousands of people in many positive ways. Our Nation would be a much better place if there were more people like Roy Bledsoe.

Roy's public service began in 1959 as a member of the Soil Conservation District in Sweetwater Creek. He then went on to be elected to the Loudon County Commission in 1966 and become the first mayor of the county in 1968.

His remarkable 48 years of service on the Loudon County Commission is unmatched.

Recently, the state of Tennessee honored Roy's service with a Joint House Resolution, which stated that he "distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to his community," and that his "remarkable success as a public servant and civic leader is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and his uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life."

Roy was a friend and supporter of my father, and I have been blessed to have his friendship and support over the years as well. I know even in retirement he will continue to impact the lives of many.

Mr. Speaker, Commissioner Roy H. Bledsoe is a patriotic and great American known for his work ethic and generosity. I bring his service to the attention of my Colleagues and other readers of the RECORD and wish my friend well on the occasion of his well-earned retirement.

**HONORING STANISLAUS COUNTY
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES
MANAGER III DEBORAH
THRASHER****HON. JEFF DENHAM**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2014

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Stanislaus County Office of Emergency Services Manager III Deborah Thrasher on her retirement. After 13 years of valuable service to the Emergency Operations Center and county, Mrs. Thrasher retired on September 5, 2014.

Mrs. Thrasher has been an integral part of the development and maintenance of emergency operations plans for Stanislaus County and nine other cities. She has developed and handled the annual maintenance and continuity of government plans and operations for the county and hosted workshops for local agencies. Mrs. Thrasher managed the local hazard mitigation plan and developed several programs for the county, including the agri-

culture plan, avian influenza plan, and functional annexes for emergency operations plans.

Over the last 10 years, Mrs. Thrasher was also responsible for management and administration of all related grant programs. During that time, she became one of the most respected operational area managers of Homeland Security Grants. Additional duties included, coordinating FEMA Emergency Management Performance Grants and Public Safety Interoperable Communications Grant program.

Mrs. Thrasher served on several local and state committees representing Stanislaus County, including the Mutual Aid Regional Advisory Committee, California Emergency Services Association, Stanislaus County Healthcare Executives, and the Stanislaus County Operational Area Council. Through her leadership, she developed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Stanislaus County and United Way. Mrs. Thrasher would also swear in volunteers as emergency service workers and participate in full scale exercises with the county & State of California.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Stanislaus County Office of Emergency Services Manager III Deborah Thrasher on her retirement and in wishing her the best of luck in her future endeavors.

TO RECOGNIZE MS. ALEX HOLLEY**HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2014

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, today, I recognize Alex Holley who has joined FOX29 as the new anchor of Good Day Philadelphia.

Ms. Holley is a native Texan and comes to the City of Brotherly Love by way of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina where she previously served as a local news reporter and anchor.

Philadelphia, and our region, has a rich history of journalism dating back to the founding of our nation, including the likes of Benjamin Franklin, and the signing of the Bill of Rights which ensure a free and open press. It is my hope that Ms. Holley continues this tradition and will loyally report on the latest news from around the Delaware Valley.

As the federal representative of Bucks and Montgomery counties, and part of Good Morning Philadelphia's broadcasting area, I look forward to her reporting on the issues affecting the people and communities of our region. I join my neighbors in welcoming Ms. Holley and wish her the best of luck in this new, exciting position.

**HONORING MS. DORIS HAYNES
MILLER****HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding, highly driven professional, Doris Haynes Miller.

Doris Haynes Miller was born, raised and educated in Clarksdale, Mississippi where she